

ONCE UPON A TIME

BY
CLYDE
LUDWICK

THE CHILDREN LEARNED STRENGTH IS OF LITTLE USE WITHOUT WILL POWER



1—When Son Bud and Sis were resting contentedly in their snug, warm bed the wonderful little elf, Will Power, slipped up and shook them violently. "A great stone has rolled down the mountain and closed the door of the Cave of Weakness, where the people of Can't are asleep," he told them. "Let us go and roll it away."



2—By the time they had reached the cave the giant, Strength, who is as good as he is big, had his strong shoulder against the stone, but it was very heavy and Strength seemed about to fail in his effort.



3—Then Will Power, who is very small but very strong, threw his small body against the rock and, behold, it rolled away!



4—The people asleep in the Cave of Weakness never even woke up. The giant Strength rested for a short time while Son Bud and Sis and Will Power wondered what he was going to do next.



5—And this is what he did:—He took Will Power in his large hand and, looking knowingly at him, said:—"You are my long lost friend. You and I are pals. Together there is nothing we cannot do, and," confessed the giant Strength, "without you I am of little use."



6—Next morning Son Bud and Sis came to the conclusion that Will Power was a pretty good companion for Strength.

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THE CHILDREN FIND IT IS BETTER TO OBEY



1—When she saw her brother with matches she said—"Oh, Son Dad! Mother told us never to play with matches." But she stood to watch the blue and yellow flames as much as Son Dad did, and when he said, "Come—, let us build a bonfire," she forgot all about what mother said.



2—With old papers and sticks they built a beautiful fire out in the back yard and a line of blue smoke curled gracefully about their heads while they sat by warming their hands.



3—The bonfire was fun, but no wonder has they gone to sleep that the Witch Blazes found them, for she had seen the sparks of their fire. She wanted them to play a game with her and, scolding them with her hot hand, she shouted "Fie!" and was off.



4—Son Dad and the two after her as fast as they could until they were gasping for breath and were growing warmer each step. When they were so hot they were about to "burn up" they remembered that they had hidden their matches.



5—The children were very much ashamed that they had not obeyed and left the matches alone, as Mother had told them. Suddenly the Rescue Fairy came up and dashed cold water from her magic cup on Blazes and quenched her.



6—When there was nothing left of the witch but her cinder and a heap of ashes, the Fairy gave to each of the children a drink from her magic cup and told them to get to bed. Son Dad and Sue did not need to be advised to obey their parents after that, for, so sure as fate, Blazes would have burnt them if they had not repented of their disobedience just when they did.

ONCE UPON A TIME BY CLYDE LUSWICK

THE CHILDREN ARE STUBBORN



1—Farmer Brown was out in his field one day when he saw a little elf with two frisky mules. He was surprised to see an elf in such company, but when the little fellow offered to sell the mules Farmer Brown bought them.



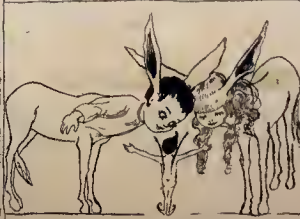
2—When the mules were hitched to the wagon they refused to work, although the farmer whipped them severely.



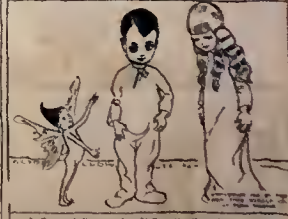
3—Finally the farmer put a bundle of hay in a long pole and sent it just far enough ahead of the stubborn mules to tempt them to drag the wagon.



4—But they were a sorry pair of mules at the end of the day and the farmer could not guess why they wept so.



5—The little brown elf knew why they wept and his heart was touched. He started to sing a magic song and the mules immediately began to turn into a sweet little boy and girl.



6—Can you believe me when I tell you that the mules were Tom and Sue all the time? They were turned into humans because they were stubborn and if they had not repented just when they did the little elf never could have turned them into children again.

ONCE UPON A TIME

BY
GUY DE
LUDWICK

THE CHILDREN LEARN SOME OF THE EVILS OF MONEY



1—The children tripped happily down the street—for Son Bud held in his hand a bright new coin. It was not a small coin, either, and it belonged to him and Sis.



2—When they neared the place where "Smiling Sam," the blind man, sat and played his music, boy and girl saw a beautiful woman put some money into Sam's cup and he smiled anew as the coins tinkled as they dropped into his cup, but he kept on turning his organ until the tune was finished.



3—Before the music ended a rascally boy slipped noisily upon his bare feet and took the money from the cup. Son Bud and Sis never once told the boy to put the money back! Never even told him that stealing was very wicked and that the "Steak-grinder" would get him if he stole, and they knew it well!



4—As the boy ran away and "Smiling Sam" put his one remaining hand—his left hand (for he had lost his right hand)—into the cup. His smile turned into a look of distress, for he found that he had been robbed, and I believe his next was due that very day.



5—Presently a big boy who had seen "Smiling Sam" day after day and had never before seen him looking sad, asked:—"What is the matter, 'Smiles'! Why are you so sad?" The cripple shook his head and said:—"I have been robbed!" Son Bud had been thinking all this time about giving Sam his own bright coin, but it felt very grand in his little fist.

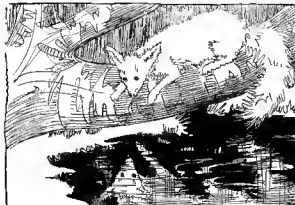


6—"I'll fix that," said the big boy, for he had seen Son Bud with money in his hand. "Give the blind man back his money!" he commanded, for he thought that it was Son Bud who had robbed poor Sam. And with that he shook Son Bud by the shoulders until he was glad to give up his own money. The next time Son Bud and Sis see a boy doing something naughty they are going to try to keep him from doing it.

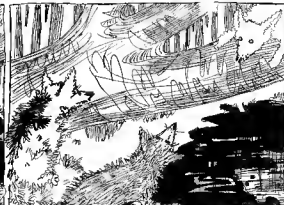
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THE CHILDREN FOUND VANITY IS A DANGEROUS THING



1—In a great forest there lived a beautiful white fox, who liked to sit and admire his image as it was reflected in a small lake that was clear and still. Many a time other foxes found him thus reveling in his own good looks.



2—The fox with the cross on his back and the gray fox disliked the white fox very much. When they came to the lake to get a drink of water the white fox was angered by their intrusion and said:—"Why do you come here to my mirror?" If I had an ugly gray or spotted coat, as you have I would hide even from my own eyes. But I am as white as the drifted snow!" he boasted.



"Our coat, unless it's been so great a while since the hunters or their dogs, nor do they soil as easily as yours," was the answer. But even as they spoke they looked into the mirror and hated their own practical coats. Next day they stayed in their burrows. They were trying to forget that their coats were not "as white as the drifted snow," and they did not go near the lake, for they did not wish to be reminded that gray fox or cross fox does not bring the highest market prices.



4—When again the cross fox and the gray fox were forced by thirst to revisit the lake the white fox was nowhere to be seen.



5—Soon after that Mother invited Son Bud and Sis to drive through the woods with her. They were delighted. She looked unusually beautiful in her new white fur, and the children felt very proud.



"Then the cross fox said to the white fox:—"Did you see that?" Then the cross fox stuck his head out of a neighboring tree and replied:—

"The white fox? Yes, it happened this way. When the white fox was admiring his beauty in the lake he was so interested that he forgot to keep a lookout for the huntsmen, and they came up quietly and caught him."

"Practical clothes are the best after all," said the gray fox. "I should say," answered the cross fox. "That vanity is a dangerous thing."

After that the two foxes were contented with the colors that nature had given them.

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CLYDE
LUDWICKTHE CHILDREN LEARN THEY ARE THEIR
MOTHER'S MOST PRECIOUS JEWELS

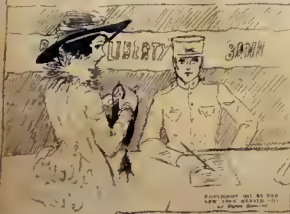
1.—In a magnificent home she reigned the most beautiful woman in the world. Yes, I am sure she was the most beautiful, for she was somebody's mother, and a mother is always "the most beautiful woman." She had many valuable jewels, and when her children were asleep she would take them from their case and admire them.



2.—Many times when her friends called they asked to see the jewels, for they knew how proud the beautiful woman was of them and that she liked to have their quality praised.



3.—But when the great war came and our country needed money for our soldiers her conscience bade her sell her jewels and help to win the war. She lagged close the case in which they were kept as she walked down the avenue to the jeweler's.



4.—Her purse was heavy with the great amount of money she had received for her jewels, but she emptied it by giving to charity and by buying Liberty bonds to help the government.



5.—When again her friends called and asked to see the jewels "the most beautiful woman" looked up from her knitting and smiled. Then she said, "I will go bring them."



6.—So strong she went into the next room and returned with her little son and daughter. "These are the last and most precious of the family jewels," she said. And she was speaking of Son Fred and Jim. Then the children offered their hands to the callers just as Mother would have.